

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

James G. FRANCIS et al.

Serial No. 10/801,832

Group Art Unit: 3692

Confirmation No. 3139

Filed: March 17, 2004

Examiner: Ethan M Dietrich

For: DISTRIBUTED, OBJECT ORIENTED GLOBAL TRADE FINANCE SYSTEM WITH
IMBEDDED IMAGING AND WORK FLOW AND REFERENCE DATA

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 16, 2007, and having a period for response set to expire on April 16, 2007. A Petition for a two-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to June 16, 2007.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

The Abstract as amended below with a replacement Abstract shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~.

Please DELETE the Abstract in its entirety and substitute the below new Abstract.

An object oriented trade finance system designed to support a large-scale transactional work flow on a global basis. ~~The system is designed to support imbedded imaging technology for the scanning, storage and retrieval of all documents coming into and going out of the system. The system supports a flexible 3-tier architecture providing direct separation between the presentation layer, the business layer and the database layer. This flexibility allows for the distribution of processing across geographic boundaries while also providing the ability to perform high-volume transaction processing. The system supports all facets of the trade finance business including but not limited to letters of credit, collections, bankers acceptances and reimbursements. A trade finance system organized into a central and distributed location hardware architecture with a three tier software architecture having a user interface of a user work station which communicates with an application server including business objects. The business objects communicate with a database to obtain the data needed for the business logic and for display on the interface. The business objects include all the business logic needed for the system. An imaging server is provided to allowing users to view copies of the trade finance documents as work items are processed by using a link in the work item to the document image. Work flow distribution rules are used to distribute the work items to a work item list for work group that can be distributed geographically in different time zones. The rules also redistribute the work items as needed and to allow processing to continue when the originally assigned workgroup has reached an end of its business day. A communication service facilitates communication between the business objects and the user interface using attribute links in the interface windows. An attribute manager facilitates obtaining attributes needed by the business objects allowing the business objects to include generic rather than specialized attribute access methods.~~